



## THE HOURGLASS

HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S NEWSLETTER

WILLINGTON

Vol. IV

Willington, Connecticut - May, 1977

No. 4

### 250th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION PLANNED

#### CHRONOLOGY READY FOR SALE

#### WILLINGTON CHRONOLOGY PUBLISHED

Isabel Weigold, chairperson of the History Committee, has announced that the Willington Chronology has been completed and is due to come off the press on Friday, May 6. It consists of approximately 116 pages with about 8 pages of photographs. The cover was designed by Mrs. Marion Doran and is taken from an old photograph dating about 1912.

This is the first such publication in Willington and it is hoped that it will interest the community on the advent of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the town. The book covers the first two hundred years of Willington's history from 1727 to 1927. Additional research on the last fifty years is necessary and underway. When that portion of the research is finished it is expected that a complete history will be published. The Chronology is an introduction, in effect, to the final history.

The cost of the Chronology will be \$6.00. All efforts were made to keep

possible with rising costs of material and labor. The books will be available for sale at the library at Hall Memorial School during school and library hours and at the Town Hall. They may also be purchased through Mrs. Weigold by calling 429-2656 or Mrs. Betsy McIlvaine, 429-3477. They will be sold at the Center School during the Anniversary celebration between May 27 and 29th. Additional distribution points will be published at a later date.

#### ANTIQUES AND COSTUMES NEEDED FOR EXHIBIT: SATURDAY, May 28th.

Antique collectors here will get a chance to show off their treasures May 28th from 12 noon to 5 P.M. when the Historical Society hosts a display of old household items.

The display will feature a 19th century 'home' at Center School's All Purpose Room and is part of the town's 250th anniversary celebration Memorial Day weekend.

The Society is particularly interested in displaying items made in Willington (such as glass, buttons, or thread), brought to Willington, or connected with Willington families. However, it is also asking residents to loan items which might have been found in a typical New England home during the 1800's.

Residents are being asked to loan their treasures to the society for the day. Security will be provided for the items and society members will be on hand to answer questions about them. Mrs. Weigold, display coordinator, hopes that those who work as guides will wear period costumes.

We plan to set up a living room, dining room, bedroom and kitchen. Items sought are:

**BEDROOM:** We have a bed, quilt, and commode and need: rocker, handmade braided or woven rug, oil lamps, bureau, mirror, etc.

**LIVING ROOM:** couch, rocker, rug, sampler, table, odd tables, books, bookcase, desk, etc.

**KITCHEN:** iron stove, dry sink, table, tablecloth, baskets, chairs, teakettle, flatiron, butter churn, and a limited number of other utensils.

**DINING ROOM:** 4 place settings of old china, glassware, silverware, 4 chairs, table, tablecloth, napkins, napkin rings, china cabinet for display of old china, braided rug, samplers, needlepoint, orwiel embroidery, etc.

We are also requesting many quilts - old and new - to serve as separators for rooms as well as for exhibit themselves. Nineteenth century costumes, either genuine antiques or copies, are also needed for our guides. We hope, of course, that you will come and model it yourself and help us out that day.

Also, if you have a collection of some particular type of antique, you are invited to set up and present a separate display outside of the model household.

Anyone having items they would like to exhibit may contact Mrs. Weigold (429-2656) or Mrs. McIlvaine (429-3477). There will be a glass enclosed cabinet for display of Willington glass and other items that may be breakable. We plan to cordon off the various room areas so that people will not be tempted to touch or handle things. Members of the Society will be in each of the areas to insure their safety.

#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Volunteers will be needed both Friday night, May 27th, and all day Saturday the 28th to set up and host the exhibit. For the actual show Saturday afternoon Mrs. Weigold would like to have hosts and hostesses dressed in costumes of the times, so dig out those bustles, bonnets, and top hats! If you can work call Mrs. Weigold or Mrs. McIlvaine for details.

#### SOCIETY REVISES CONSTITUTION

At a general meeting preceding the Town Meeting March 1st, members of the Historical Society voted to accept a revised constitution. According to president, Betsy McIlvaine, our organization should now meet state requirements for a corporation that may become tax exempt. The revised version was virtually the same as that printed in our last newsletter with minor changes in the requirements for a quorum.

#### HISTORICAL DISTRICTS AGAIN UNDER STUDY

At a town meeting Tuesday March 1st voters decided that Willington would set up a Historical District Study Committee. Its purpose is to locate historically interesting areas where property owners favor both the limitations and protections offered by a legally constituted Historical District. Their report will eventually be submitted to another town meeting which will then decide whether to authorize a Historical District Commission to form and oversee the Districts. Willington Green

on Rt. 44 is the first area to be considered for preservation.

As required, the Board of Selectmen appointed five members to the committee: Ernest and Mary Kline, *Ray Dalry* Michael Helfgott, and Barry Williams. Mr. Williams has since been elected chairman and Mr. Helfgott, secretary. The committee has already submitted a budget of \$450 to the Board of Finance and talked to property owners around the Green. Their next meeting is scheduled for May 12th.

**ANNIVERSARY PORTFOLIO CREATED BY THE COMBINED EFFORTS OF HALL MEMORIAL STUDENTS AND THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The Historical Society, in cooperation with the Art Department at Hall Memorial School, has compiled a portfolio of twenty-three sketches of people, costumes and scenes of Willington. Most of them were drawn from old photographs. The 7th and 8th grade students in the Offset Printing, Art and Architectural Drafting classes, under the direction of Mrs. Irene Dodds and Mr. Joel Boisvert have assembled this commemorative anniversary portfolio. It is available at the office of the Hall Memorial School and from members of the Historical Society for \$1.50. Profits from its sale will be used for some special, as yet undecided, project at Hall School. The sketches include the Willington Hill Church, the covered bridge which once existed in South Willington, the store and post office in East Willington, Moose Meadow School, Glass Factory School, scenes of Daleville dating about 1830, Hall's barn, the Town Hall and many others.

**BUS TOUR OF HISTORIC SITES PLANNED**

With the idea of acquainting visitors with some of the spirit and diversity of Willington's past, Frances Euhoff will conduct bus tours of historic areas in town as part of the town's 250th Anniversary Celebration Memorial Day weekend. A life-long resident and part of a family which has lived in town for several generations, Ms. Euhoff is particularly qualified to guide such a tour. Her route will probably include Willington Green, Kollar Road, and the Sharp's Mill area, South Willington Village, and perhaps the parter collection at Hall Memorial Church. An old home ~~to be~~ may possibly also be included. She plans to illustrate the tour with maps of Willington in the 19th century as well as providing information on both the areas driven through and on those which cannot actually covered on the tour.

Tours, which ~~will~~ take about 1 hour, will leave from Parter School between 10:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M., Saturday, May 28th.

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THERE'S A MEETING HERE TONIGHT!  
TUESDAY NIGHT, MAY 10th, 7:30 P.M. AT THE  
OLD TOWN HALL WORK MEETING TO PLAN OUR  
ANNIVERSARY ANTIQUES DISPLAY.  
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